

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on Page 22, lines 11 - 18 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- Referring now to Fig. 5C (comprising Figs. 5C1 and 5C2), a JSP 540 is provided that may be used to create a markup stream for rendering the "Stock [[Quote]] Quotes" content area 730 of the portal page 700 of Fig. 7. As with JSPs 500 and 520, this JSP 540 also specifies the custom tag processing directive. The content to be rendered as the output of the stock portlet for content area 730 is structured as a table. The table has two input areas, namely an entry field and a "Get Quote" button. These input areas are rendered as field 731 and button 732 of Fig. 7. The input tags 541, 542 each invoke the getTabIndex logic to dynamically generate a TABINDEX attribute value, passing as input values a region name of "StockPortlet" and offsets of "1" and "2". --

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 24, line 15 and carries over to Page 25, line 14 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- Fig. 8 shows the same portal page 700 as Fig. 7, but has been annotated to show the order of tab stops, as specified by the TABINDEX attribute values in the output document 580 of Fig. [[5G1]] 5G. Thirteen tab stops are provided in this rendered portal page, and encircled numbers 1 through 13 correspond to the order in which these tab stops will be visited when the tab key is pressed repeatedly. Note that priority for visitation has been given to the content area in the center of the page, where the first tab stop (shown by an encircled number 1) appears in the entry field of the Stock Quotes portlet's output area. After tabbing through the two tab-able

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fields of this portlet, the next tab stop is in the Weather portlet output area, and tabbing out of the Weather portlet moves the focus into the Online Chat portlet. The left navigation area (indicated by reference number 720 in Fig. 7) has the next-highest priority for navigation, and will be visited after tabbing out of the Online Chat portlet. The top navigation area (indicated by reference number 710 in Fig. 7) has the lowest priority for navigation, having the 12th and 13th tab stops. While the sequence illustrated in this example does not flow in-order through the portal page, it likely represents the order in which a user would be most interested in navigating the page. (That is, the user is most likely to be interested in visiting the portlet content areas, and least interested in returning to the input fields where he or she enters his/her user identifier and password.) Thus, it can be seen that use of the present invention allows coordinating the output of multiple JSPs, providing a visitation order that is more intuitive and is better adapted to the particular page being rendered. --

Please replace the paragraph on Page 29, lines 3 - 12 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- The processing of Fig. 9 may be used to set up an internally-accessible representation of the value ranges which may be used by either of the embodiments (as has been described above). Preferably, this logic operates when the portal is initialized. Starting at Block 900, the configuration file (or other data repository) is opened. The portal tab index region information was previously stored in this configuration file, for example using input from a portal administrator or user, as discussed earlier. Block 920 creates an internal data structure, referred to in Fig. 9 as a table (by way of illustration). This internal table preferably has a row for each

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region, and each row preferably contains fields for the region name, the starting range value for that region, the ending range value, and a current offset value. Each of these latter three (i.e., numeric) fields is preferably initialized to zero. --

Please replace the paragraph on Page 34, lines 7 - 13 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- While the preferred embodiments of the present invention have been described, additional variations and modifications in those embodiments may occur to those skilled in the art once they learn of the basic inventive concepts. For example, other types of scripting language documents (such as documents encoded using javascript) may be substituted for JSPs, if the substituted scripting language provides features of the type discussed herein. Therefore, it is intended that the appended claims shall be construed to include both the preferred embodiment embodiments and all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit and scope of the invention. --

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